

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Reopening,  
Outside Waters South of Marsh Island

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967(D) of the Administrative Procedure Act, which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons, and R.S. 56:6.1 which provides the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries with authority to declare a closed season on any and all species of fish found or existing in the waters of the state, and a resolution adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on May 6, 2010 which granted the secretary the authority to open any area, or re-open any previously closed area, of inside waters to shrimping based upon biological and technical data, the secretary hereby opens to all recreational and commercial fishing that portion of state outside waters extending seaward of the inside/outside shrimp line from South Point of Marsh Island at 91 degrees 45 minutes 48 seconds west longitude westward to the eastern shore of Freshwater Bayou at 92 degrees 18 minutes 27 seconds west longitude effective immediately May 24, 2010.

The Deep Horizon drilling rig accident has resulted in a significant release of hydrocarbon pollutants into the waters offshore of southeast Louisiana and these pollutants have the potential to impact fish and other aquatic life in portions of these coastal waters. Efforts have been made and are continuing to be made to minimize the potential threats to fish and other aquatic life. This area was originally closed on May 18, 2010 due to a confirmed report of oil on a small section of the southern shoreline of Marsh Island. Since that time, no additional oil has been reported from the area and this area shall re-open to all recreational and commercial fishing effective immediately May 24, 2010.

Robert J. Barham  
Secretary

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